Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 13279 151554Z ACTION AF-10

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AF/I FOR SLEZAK

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: ELAB, NI

SUBJECT: MINISTRY OF LABOR INTEREST IN U.S. TRAINING

- 1. DURING NOVEMBER 14 COURTESY CALL ON G.C. OKOGWU, DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS, MINISTRY OF LABOR BY GEORGE L.P. WEAVER (CURRENTLY WITH ORT, FORMER ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF LABOR AND FORMER CHAIRMAN OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE ILO), OKOGWU ASKED WHETHER IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO ARRANGE TRAINING FOR 12 NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES AND WORKER'S REPRESENTATIVES AT THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR FREE LABOR DEVELOPMENT (AIFLD).
- 2. WEAVER SAID HE WOULD CONTACT AFL-CIO UPON HIS RETURN AND OKOGWU ASKED EMBOFF WHO ACCOMPANIED WEAVER TO PASS SIMILAR REQUEST THROUGH USG CHANNELS.
- 3. ACCORDING TO OKOGWU, MINISTRY OF LABOR IS PLANNING TO ESTABLISH A NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF LABOR STUDIES AT ILORIN TO TRAIN PERMANENT STAFF OF NIGERIAN LABOR UNIONS. EVEN THOUGH TENTATIVE APPROVAL WAS GIVEN ONLY LAST WEEK, MINISTRY HOPES TO HAVE STAFF TRAINED DURING NEXT CALENDAR YEAR AND NEW INSTITUTE IN OPERATION LATE NEXT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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YEAR. OKOGWU DESIRES TRAINING PROGRAM OF FOUR TO SIX MONTHS IN LENGTH INCLUDING SOME PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE WITH MAJOR AMERICAN UNIONS, SUCH AS AUTO WORKERS, PETROLEUM EMPLOYEES AND LONGSHOREMEN. HE SAID THAT SOME MINISTRY EMPLOYEES ARE CURRENTLY IN TRAINING IN THE U.K. AND HE DOES NOT BELIEVE THE RESULTS WILL BE SATISFACTORY. HE WAS SPECIFICALLY INTERESTED IN AIFLD,

WHICH WE BELIEVE HE MUST HAVE VISITED DURING PREVIOUS VISIT TO U.S.

- 4. WHILE OKOGWU WISHES TO MOVE AHEAD WITH TPAINING PROGRAM, HE TOLD EMBOFF IN EARLIER CONVERSATION THAT PLANNING WAS TENTATIVE AND FUNDING HAD NOT YET BEEN APPROVED.
- 5. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION THAT DEPARTMENT CAN PROVIDE ON POSSIBILITY OF SUCH A TRAINING PROGRAM. SINCE WEAVER HAS VOLUNTEERED TO TALK TO AFL-CIO DIRECTLY, DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO CONTACT HIM AFTER HIS RETURN TO U.S. LATER THIS WEEK. WEAVER'S WASHINGTON OFFICE TELEPHONE NUMBER IS 293-2560.
- 6. DECONTROL UPON RECEIPT. EASUM

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Message Attributes

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